(b) For Haj pilgrims, State-wise quota is fixed on the basis of the Muslim population in each State/Union Territory. Selection is made on the basis of applications received by the State Haj Committees through Qurrah (lottery). However, during Haj-95 and Haj-96, all pilgrims wishing to go for Haj have been accommodated.

2. For the Sikhs/Sehejdhari Hindu jathas visiting holy shrines in Pakistan, the lists are prepared by various Sikh/Shadani Darbar/Hindu organisations and are forwarded to this Ministry through respective State Governments for facilitation issue of visa by Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi.

3. Fo Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, advertisements in newspapers, TV and radio are released by this Ministry in February every year inviting applications which are compiled on first-come-first-served basis. Since this pilgrimage is tortuous, applicants are required to be physically and mentally fit and submit a set of medical reports in this regard. They are also required to undertake a medical check-up in New Delhi and in Gunji Uttar Pradesh, before being permitted to undertake the Yatra, across border in Chinese territory.

(c) Government of India subsidised travel of pilgrims to Saudi Arabia for the Haj as under :

1994	Rs. 24.69 crores
1995	Rs. 17.95 crores
1996	Rs. 42.02 crores

In addition, Government sponsored administrative and medical (doctors and para-medics) contingents to Saudi Arabia and despatched from India medicines and attendant facilities such as ambulances, camp dispensaries etc. to attend to the needs of the Haj pilgrims.

2. In case of the Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas from India to Pakistan, no financial assistance is provided as the expenses involved are affordable. But the Government provides assistance in issuance of visa, issue of foreign exchange through RBI, special train services for the pilgrims, both for onward and return journeys, and attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India, Islamabad with the visiting Jathas who renders assistance to the pilgrims when the pilgrims contact for any kind of help.

3. In 1996, Government provided a subsidy of Rs. 3250/- per pilgrim to the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) towards board, lodge and transport arrangements. Besides, Government has been providing air evacuation facility in cooperation with Air Force in case of life threatening situation for the pilgrims and pays an annual charge of US $ 7000/- to the Chinese side for the maintenance of wireless communication link between India and Tibet for the duration of the Yatra. For every batch of 25 to 35 pilgrims, one Liaison Officer is attached at Government cost to look after the welfare of the pilgrims.

(d) It is estimated that the number of pilgrims in 1997 for various pilgrimages abroad would equal if not exceed, the 1996 figures.

Allocation of Funds to IIM, Bangalore

2392. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made to Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the activities of the Indian Institute of Management have come to a stand-still due to financial constraints;

(c) if so, whether IIM, Bangalore has sought higher budgetary support;

(d) whether the IIM, Bangalore has sought permission to float educational bonds; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) (a) An amount of Rs. 962.00 lakh has been released during 1995-96 and the budgetary allocation during 1996-97 is Rs. 693.00 lakh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal of the IIM Bangalore seeking permission to float educational bonds.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University

2393. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made towards the establishment of the proposed Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University;

(b) the allocation made and expenditure incurred on the University Project so far; and

(c) the date by which the University is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) (a) to (c). The Bill to establish and incorporate the Maulana Azad National Urdu University at Hyderabad has since been passed by the Rajya Sabha and is now pending consideration by the Lok Sabha.